

**Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety**

## Meeting Minutes

Washington Utilities &amp; Transportation Commission

1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504

June 1, 2011

**Present members:**Tim Sweeney, Vice-Chair  
Carl Weimer  
Bill Rickard  
Art Coulombe  
David Taylor  
Terrill Briere  
Bob Beaumier  
Jody Morehouse  
Rosalie Ann Lopez  
Ruth Mabrey**Absent members:**Ron Schmitt  
Andrew Martonick  
Corey Herrick**Other attendees:**David Lykken, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Ryan Paulsen, DOE  
Rebecca Craven, Pipeline Safety Trust**Agenda Items:**

1. **Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of March 24, 2011 Meeting Minutes**  
The meeting was brought to order by Tim Sweeney who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the March 24, 2011 meeting minutes as written.
2. **Presentation by Rick Kuprewicz, Accufacts, Inc. (San Bruno Pipe Rupture, Conflicts within State PUCs-Rate Making vs. Safety, and Emergency Responder Pipeline Emergency Effectiveness-Recent PHMSA ADB-It's the law!)**  
Rick presented a slide presentation titled "Major Public Concerns Raised by the San Bruno Gas Pipeline Rupture." (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*)  
  
Tim recommended a future meeting agenda topic be the Public Awareness requirements under RP 1162.
3. **Federal Update Report**  
Carl provided the following updates:
  - **PHMSA Reauthorization** – Carl presented a summary of the four Bills under consideration in Congress. (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*). The Lautenberg Bill S275 has passed out of the Senate committee unanimously and therefore appears likely to pass the Senate. The Obama Administration has placed pipeline safety into an Omnibus Transportation Bill. Congressman Speier from California has authored a Bill (HR22) in

response to San Bruno which is part of her district. Carl provided discussion and highlights of these legislative proposals.

- PHMSA Rulemakings – Carl provided updates and current status of the Federal Pipeline Safety rulemaking as of March 11, 2011. (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*). In response to question by Bob Beaumier on whether CCOPS input is appropriate, Carl stated that input into the rulemaking process is more effective than attempting to enter into discussion on congressional legislation.
- Secretary of Transportation “Report to America” on pipeline safety and associated public hearing in June – Secretary of Transportation, Ray La Hood is providing oversight on development of PHMSA’s “Report to America on Pipeline Safety.” Carl is attending a meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> to hear testimony on the proposed report. The report is scheduled for completion in August. This is a topic that the CCOPS may want to provide input on.

**Action(s):**

Bob Beaumier made a motion to have a letter sent to PHMSA expressing the need to clarify the definition of gas transmission pipeline, differentiating them from distribution. Carl suggested a friendly amendment to add the need for clarifying the definition of gathering lines. Tim seconded and motion passed unanimously. Members will work with UTC staff to draft a letter and distribute to all members for review.

4. **2010 Stakeholder Annual Report (Final Report and New Logo)**

Terri was tasked to draft a few report header logos for members’ consideration. Nine draft logos were distributed for member’s comment and approval. The new letter head logo will be used on CCOPS written correspondence and annual reports.

**Action(s):**

- Members determined no graphic will be utilized in the new logo. Based on members’ comments, Terri will select two or three popular choices and email Marina for distribution to members for final selection.
- Marina will send an email distribution list to members for review and comment.
- Tim will draft a cover letter to accompany the annual report for Ron’s review.

5. **Report & Discussion on the new Damage Prevention Act. RCW 19.122**

Dave Lykken provided a Powerpoint presentation update of the new Washington Damage Prevention Act (RCW 19.122). (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*). The Governor signed the Bill on May 5, 2011, and becomes effective on January 1, 2013. The UTC will be meeting with stakeholders at the end of the month. Possible discussion topics for these meetings include how to handle complaints. The UTC will be submitting a RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for an organization to manage the safety committee.

6. **Public Comment**

Ryan distributed a DOE update to all members on oil contingency plans and drills. (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*)

7. **UTC update (David Lykken)**

- PHMSA Audit - David provided a copy of program scoring documents of all state programs for Gas and Liquid. The 2011 scoring document is based on the 2009 performance evaluation and certification documents from 2010. Washington state Gas program scored 98.70, and Hazardous Liquid program received a score of 99.15. In response to Bob’s question on the

definition of an “inspection unit,” Dave clarified that they are based on geographical and population areas.

- The maximum federal funding for a participating state pipeline safety program is up to 80%. WA State received approximately 69% in 2011.
- PHMSA’s annual on-site program audit for CY2010 is scheduled to be conducted during the week of June 27, 2011.
- PHMSA’s financial on-site audit is scheduled for October 2011.
- The T&Q (Training & Qualification) Seminar was held at WA Labor & Industries on May 12, 2011.
- The U.S. Government accountability office will conduct an interview with Dave and Joe tomorrow, June 11, 2011 regarding non-jurisdictional pipelines.

8. **PIPA Progress Report**

Carl reported that PHMSA released the final PIPA report late last year. PHMSA is still struggling with a way to implement the PIPA recommendation and bring them to local government. They are researching to determine if they have the resources to perform this activity. At the state level, the Pipeline Safety Trust has received permission to issue “mini-grants” of \$3,000 to any city or county that wants to draft an ordinance around the PIPA recommendations. Five communities have agreed to participate including Pierce and Snohomish Counties, Cities of Roy, Bellingham and Kirkland. Skagit County received a separate grant and is closed to submitting a draft ordinance to their Commission.

9. **Pipeline 101 Presentation**

Dave Taylor provided the “Pipe Speak 101” PowerPoint presentation to members. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website)*

10. **2011 Workplan**

- Ruth suggested that industry members could discuss their public awareness initiatives and compliance with RP 1162. Tim suggested that perhaps the distribution companies could be invited, including PSE for the September meeting.
- Bob Beaumier suggested a builder/developer perspective on land use ordinances and PIPA implementation.
- Bill recommended a presentation to committee members on smart pigging technology and capabilities. Ruth volunteered to provide presentation. (September meeting)
- Art suggested the possibility of having a local pipeline facility tour. Tim will confer with Ron and David Lykken.

11. **Public Comments**

No public comments were provided.

12. **Other Business, Future Agendas and Next Meeting Location**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at the UTC. Suggested topic includes the election of vice-chair.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.